

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /018 W

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R 201312Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4695

UNCLAS CAIRO 6119

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: BFOL, BEXP, EG

SUBJECT: AGENT DISTRIBUTOR SERVICE (ADS)

1. AS WASHINGTON IS AWARE, OF LIMITED COMMERCIAL STAFF WORK LOAD AT EMBASSY CAIRO HAS RAPIDLY EXPANDED SINCE RESUMPTION DIP LOMATIC RELATIONS EARLY IN 1974. REQUESTS FOR WORLD TRADE DIRECTORY REPORTS, FOR EXAMPLT, WERE 3 IN 1973, 15 IN 1974, 15 IN FIRST QUARTER 1975, AND 16 APRIL 1 TO PRESENT. EMBASSY HAS NEVERTHELESS BEEN ABLE TO MAINTAIN 30 DAY REPORTING DEADLINE ON WTDR'S.

2. INCREASE IN ADS REQUEST HAS BEEN EVEN MORE DRAMATIC. TWO WERE RECEIVED IN 1973, 11 IN 1974, 22 IN FIRST QUARTER 1975 AND 28 FROM APRIL 1 TO PRESENT. WE ARE PROCESSING THESE REQUESTS AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE, BUT, AS OF THIS MOMENT, THERE ARE 30 OUTSTANDING, EACH OF WHICH REQUIRES MORE THAN ONE FSL MAN-DAY. IT WILL TAKE SOME TIME TO OVERCOME THIS BACKLOG.

3. RECENT CHANGES IN EGYPTIAN AGENCY LAWS AND TENDER REGULATIONS PROBABLY WILL CAUSE CONSIDERABLE INCREASE IN REQUESTS FOR WTDR'S AND ADS'S.

UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE, EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO GIVE WTDR REPORTING PRIORITY OVER ADS.

4. NOW THAT BUDGET FREEZE HAS BEEN LIFTED, WE ARE SEEKING TO FILL VACANT POSITION FOR ADDITIONAL FSL COMMERCIAL ASSISTANT WHO WILL CONCENTRATE ON WTDR'S AND ADS'S. WE HOPE TO BE ABLE TO PROCESS UNCLASSIFIED

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ADS REQUESTS MORE RAPIDLY IN COMING MONTHS.

5. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT ADS SERVICE IS PARTICULARLY VALUABLE WHEN USED IN PREPARATION FOR VISITS OF COMPANY REPS TO EGYPT. WE THEREFORE SUGGEST THAT USDOC, FOR AT LEAST NEXT FEW MONTHS, ENCOURAGE USE OF ADS SERVICE FOR EGYPT ONLY WHEN TRAVEL HERE IS PLANNED.

MAESTRONE

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